

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, May 2, 1996

Published Since 1877

Students return to Casa Hogar during spring break

By Chrystelle Thames

After an eight-hour trip, Serena Vogel exited the bus at the Casa Hogar children's home in Matamoros, Mexico, to hear children shouting, "Serena, Serena!"

"I was stunned for a minute," said Vogel. "I could not believe they remembered me from a year ago."

This year's group of 39 college-age students connected with Morrison Heights, Clinton, painted and repaired cottages. Tracy Warren, an instructor at Holmes Community College, was a sponsor on the trip and led a crew who poured a cement driveway.

Several students also continued the tradition of painting trees and electric poles about half way up. (The lime in the paint applied to the trees and poles helps cut down on insects.) Dusty Pittman, member of the Baptist Student Union (BSU) quartet at Mississippi State University, spent his week refurbishing and repairing farm equipment.

"This trip illustrates how a number of individuals from different cultures and organizations can come together and work to benefit children in our world," said Stan Feener, minister to students at Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, and organizer of the trip.

"These young people reap enormous bene-

fits from this experience. A great number of them have never experienced the satisfaction of work with their own hands. It changes their focus and they leave rewarded," he said.

Lest one get the impression this trip was all work and no play, Casa Hogar children found great satisfaction in their large victory during a soccer game — Mexico vs. America.

On the last day of the trip everyone enjoyed trading and bartering at the market.

"The group also became a choir in one marathon, four-hour choir practice," said Rhudy Cole, Mississippi Baptist Children's Village staff member and co-organizer of this annual trip to Casa Hogar.

This impromptu choir, directed by Alice Nettles, wife of Bill Nettles, MC associate professor of physics and engineering science, shared and led in worship at First Church, Harlingen, Texas, on Wednesday evening.

The college choir also sang several selections at the usual fiesta on Thursday night, including one song they learned in Spanish. "Many, many, many hugs and tears followed this fiesta, for everyone knew the departure came early the next morning," recalled Cole.

In addition to directing the choir, Alice Nettles assisted B.J. Westbrook in the kitchen as they prepared three meals a day for 39 people.

Attempting to take a stove and other necessary equipment and supplies to Casa Hogar aroused suspicion at the Mexican border, causing a thorough search of vehicles and personal belongings.

In a regular evening share time where the group reflected on the day's events, Marcus Thompson, senior history major at MC, observed the spirit of the team as they labored.

"There was a clear focus of why we were there. The work was all done from the heart, there was no hidden agenda — only sincerity. I have never felt such a peace in my life," he said.

In his greeting statement to the mission team, Saul Camacho, director of the children's home, told of the special place in his heart and life he has for Casa Hogar.



Rory Frederick, Steven Nixon, Clinton

"I trust you will find this place also a very special place in your life," he said. Camacho commended the students for their decision to work at Casa Hogar.

As he thanked them, he shared with them. "My prayer for you this week is that you find the will of God, that you will be sensitive to his voice, that you can see the difference, and that you can accept what the Lord is telling you. Feel at home with your family. We are a little different, but we are family in the Lord. You have friends here, you have brothers here. One day we will be together in heaven."

Since Camacho once lived at Casa Hogar himself and met his wife there, it is easy to see why they both work so hard to give the children at Casa Hogar every advantage possible to develop into independent, productive citizens.

Alexandra "Sasha" Mozuliova, who visited Casa Hogar for the first time this year, told how this group went to Matamoros to "carry the light," as explained in Ephesians 5:8.

It was, however, "the children at Casa

Hogar," said Sasha in her beautiful Russian accent, "who were carriers of light for us. They helped us see things in a new perspective — to see the true value of things."

John Dorrell, who also went to Casa Hogar for the first time this year, told of the precious, child-like faith of the Matamoros children.

"You will try to interact with the children, you will try to talk to them. It is hard to do in a different language. Everyone knows the love language, there is no need for words. You can be a living example. They will look at you as an example of how a young person chooses to serve the Lord in a different environment. You will be a living example of Christianity," said Camacho.

"There was a difference in the lives of these people," observed Robby Grames. "They hunger and thirst after righteousness, we are satisfied with other things. We will not find true peace and joy until we have an undivided heart as they do — until we are sold out to Jesus and not to other things," he said.

Thames is public relations director, Baptist Children's Village.

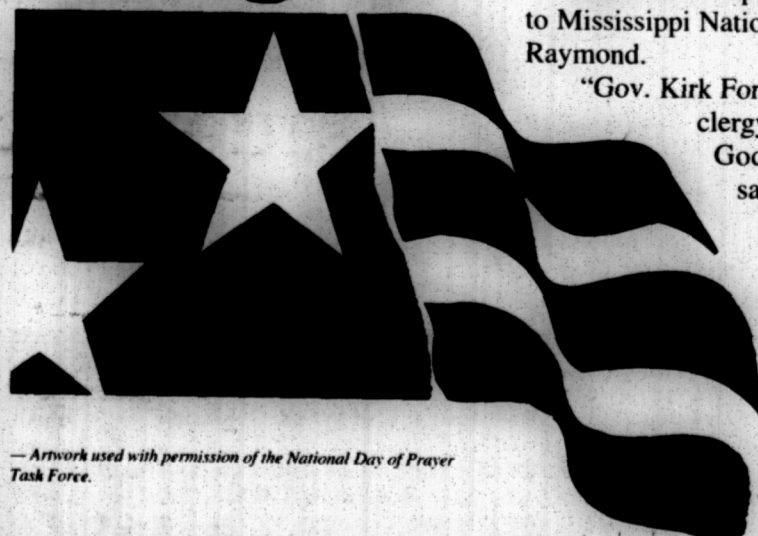


Kacey Sumrall, Clinton



Michelle Roberts, Clinton

National Day of Prayer May 2



— Artwork used with permission of the National Day of Prayer Task Force.

The 1996 observance of the National Day of Prayer in Mississippi will be held on Thursday, May 2, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on the south steps of the New Capitol in downtown Jackson, according to Mississippi National Day of Prayer coordinator Wanda Kay Wigley of Raymond.

"Gov. Kirk Fordice and Mrs. Pat Fordice, along with other officials, clergy, and laypeople, will be there in prayer... glorifying God and thanking him for a State of prayer," Wigley said.

A similar National Day of Prayer county observance will be held May 2 at 12 p.m. in front of the Hinds County Courthouse in Raymond, and a city observance will be held at Jackson City Hall at 3 p.m. on the same day.

Several other counties and cities across Mississippi will also host observances, Wigley added.

For more information on events around the state, contact Wigley at P.O. Box 198, Raymond, MS 39154. Telephone: (601) 857-5688.

Looking Back...

10 years ago

Leake Association's multi-church youth choir swells from 35 to 80 young people as preparations begin for a summer tour of the musical "Forever" by David Clydesdale. Five performances in three states are planned.

20 years ago

Jackson County Baptists, under the leadership of the associational Woman's Missionary Union, reach out to the 1,000 county residents classified as functionally illiterate with reading instruction and lessons on living the Christian life.

50 years ago

Armed guards look on as the membership of Parchman Camp 12 Union Baptist Church is allowed to leave the penitentiary to baptize 11 new Christians in a nearby river. The prison church's membership now stands at 70 people.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

Fruit of the Spirit

Editor's note: The following editorial originally appeared in the July 9, 1992, issue of The Baptist Record.

One purpose of the Holy Spirit is to impart the holiness of God to us. This will make a person more Christ-like and able to exhibit the fruit of the Holy Spirit. This is God's expectation for the believer. The godly man is like a tree planted by a river: he yields his fruit in season, his leaf does not wither, and whatever he does, he prospers.

Galatians 5:22-23 states, "But the fruit of the Spirit is:

- Love, joy, peace,
- Patience, kindness, goodness,
- Faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

Billy Graham says of these three clusters that love, joy, and peace speak of our Godward relationship; patience, kindness, and goodness are our relationships toward other people; and faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are the attitudes and actions of the inner self.

The imprimatur of the Christian is love. It's the recognizable sign that you are a disciple when you have love for one another. This sign is the springboard for all the others. Note that it is the "fruit," not "fruits" of the Spirit.

There is a tinge of sadness when you see and hear the words and actions of Christians cast in certain situations. Sometimes

pagans exhibit the fruit of the Spirit in better light than do believers.

Charles Allen expressed it well: "In one's disdain of sin, one can be harsh and unkind toward a sinner. Some people seem to have such a passion for righteousness that they have no room for compassion for those who have failed."

Kindness really measures the stature of a man. It was Jesus who wept over the city of Jerusalem.

Robert Browning captured a bit of this:

"'Twas the thief who said the last kind word to Christ; Christ took the kindness and forgave the theft."

Speeches, motions, and actions at conventions, associations, or even in church business meetings ought to be conducted in our most gracious manner though we may disagree with the actions.

Being unkind can tarnish the testimony of a believer; lack of gentleness can cast a shadow that lingers. You may be arrested for marching in an anti-abortion group or civil disobedience — let it be with class, not a nasty spirit. Christianity deserves a better show window. "Out of the mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening?" (James 3: 10-11).

One can be the epitome of "how to win friends" in public and a grouchy bear at home. Perhaps it is

in the home where we need the fruit of the Spirit to prevail.

Self-control is more regal than the purple robe of a king. How many have brought embarrassment to the Kingdom by the words used to a waitress or clerk?

Once I purchased a defective gadget that broke within a few months. Snatching it up, I headed for the store. My wife said (in effect), "Control yourself; remember who you are and whose you are."

She reminded me of an old preacher's words: "We had rather God speak any other way, other than through one's wife."

Anyhow, I rushed to the store where they were real nice and offered to replace the gadget. This made my anger even worse. I never got to deliver the flaming words I had stored. Better it is to travel a mile with a kind sinner than take a journey with a sour saint.

Self-control is taking charge of one's body, appetite, lust, and desires, and bringing them into subjection of the Spirit. There are many ways to "know them by their fruit," but the real test is the fruit of the Spirit. It has the ring of eternity, the beauty of a baby, and the marks of integrity.

Long after the bankers cease to count our money; our automobiles are rusted away; and our houses and lands are returned to their true Owner, the fruit of the Spirit will still be paying dividends.



THE FRAGMENTS

Death be not proud

Death is no stranger to any of our cities. Tragedy strikes often, and communities need comfort.

Recently, a sniper's rampage in South Jackson left us appalled. A week later, the murders of four Jackson firemen caused our city to be dressed in mourning garb. State and city officials did all they could do to assuage the grief — still, our city weeps.

John Dunne said, "The death of anyone diminishes all of us a little." If so, we all died a little in the last few weeks. So many funerals — one was held last Friday for one of the Jackson firemen.

Off-duty firemen from Vicksburg, Brandon, and other cities came to work Jackson's fire stations over the weekend so Jackson firemen could attend the funerals of their fallen comrades.

I was in the hospital with what the doctor described as a "small" heart attack. Small heart attacks are like minor surgery — they

only happen to other people.

Over my hospital room's television, I watched as mourners left Jackson's First Church. Suddenly, the camera moved to a man standing on the street. He wore a fireman's uniform. He was tall, slender; his hair was gray, his skin was black. As the flag-draped coffin went by, he almost doubled up in his grief. Many others were weeping; this man was in sorrow.

I wanted to reach out, to touch him. The church building stood behind him, the State Capitol in the background, thousands of people wept as pall bearers placed the coffin atop a fire engine to bear it to the cemetery.

Everyone in my hospital room was caught by that televised scene. Someone reached out and touched my hand to comfort me. It was a black hand. We see things so much more clearly when our eyes have been washed with tears.

— GH

"People Sharing Jesus" training, materials dubbed user-friendly

By Sarah Zimmerman

ALPHARETTA, Ga. (BP) — "People Sharing Jesus," the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's newest witness training material, is described as comfortable, user-friendly, and a companion to the popular **Experiencing God** study course.

"For those who have studied **Experiencing God**, a wonderful sequel would be to study 'People Sharing Jesus,'" said Henry Blackaby, coauthor of **Experiencing God**. "When a person or a church has an experience with God, the spontaneous response is to share immediately and extensively with others. It is the most natural expression of the joy of the Lord."

Michael Barrett, pastor of Pleasant Garden (N.C.) Church, is teaching the "People Sharing Jesus" material during a sermon

series, Sunday School, and discipleship training.

"People Sharing Jesus" helps Christians become comfortable while witnessing, Barrett said, adding it's sensitive rather than threatening to people who are witnessing.

The material takes pressure off Christians by emphasizing "a successful witness is planting the seed. God changes the life; you just be faithful to witness," Barrett said.

"People Sharing Jesus" is designed to equip Christians to witness where they live, work, and play, said Jerry Pipes, HMB associate director of personal evangelism. Participants are taught to develop relationships with lost people and intentionally share Christ with them.

Evangelist Bud Parish and Barrett are North Carolina con-

sultants for churches interested in "People Sharing Jesus," said Milton Hollifield, state evangelism director. As interim pastor at Eller Memorial Church in Greensboro, Parish uses the material during his Sunday evening sermon series.

"People Sharing Jesus" materials include six products, ranging from a study book to video tapes demonstrating witnessing styles.

Parish said his favorite product is a New Testament with 31 devotions written by Calvin Miller, professor at Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth. The devotions encourage Christians to become fishers of men.

Parish said deacons and leaders at his church will receive the New Testaments in May and be encouraged to lead their families in the daily devotionals all month. Holli-

field said participants in the state's volunteer partnership with South Africa will receive the New Testaments to encourage them to witness on their trips.

Hollifield described "People Sharing Jesus" as user-friendly because participants have nothing to memorize and leaders do not have to be trained to lead a group.

Materials range in price from \$5.99 for the New Testament to

\$159.99 for a media kit. Pipes said "People Sharing Jesus" could be taught if the leader only had the book and the leader's guide which together cost \$21.

"People Sharing Jesus" material can be ordered through HMB customer services, 1-800-634-2462, or purchased in Baptist Book Stores and other Christian bookstores.

Zimmerman writes for HMB.

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Editor.....Guy Henderson
Associate Editor.....William H. Perkins Jr.
Editorial Associate.....Florence Larrimore
Circulation Manager.....Renee Walley
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Proofreader.....Betty Smith
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Missionaries with state ties appointed April 20 by FMB

Four couples with Mississippi connections were commissioned as Southern Baptist missionaries on April 20 at the Show Me Civic Center in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

They join nearly 4,200 Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board (FMB) missionaries in 129 countries around the world.

Kansas native John McKelvey and his wife, the former Amy Hurst of Mobile, Ala., will live in Kenya, where he will work as an area auditor for missions in eastern and southern Africa.

They will also be involved in a number of outreach ministries.

Amy attended Main Street Church, Hattiesburg, while a student at Baptist-affiliated William Carey College in Hattiesburg. She also taught in the Hattiesburg public school system.

Texas Steve Robertson and his wife, the former Ruth Murphy of Pontotoc and Houlka, will live in Nigeria, where he will work as the mission's treasurer and they will be involved in a number of outreach ministries.

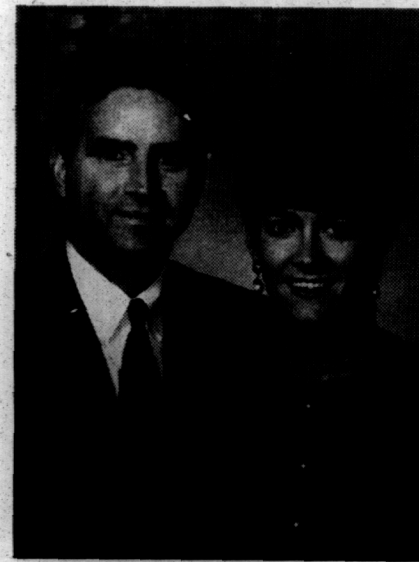
Kentucky native Kelly Zbinden and his wife, the former Jamie Smith of Minden, La., will serve in southeast Asia in devel-

opment of projects for Cooperative Services International.

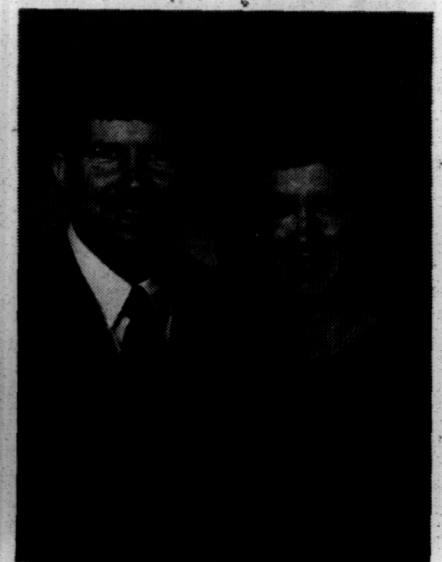
Jamie received a bachelor of science in business administration degree from Baptist-affiliated Mississippi College in Clinton.

Hattiesburg-born Robert Luper and his wife, the former Jamie Pool of Athens, Texas, will work in the Middle East and North Africa, where he will manage an English bookstore.

FMB is the largest evangelical career foreign mission agency in the U.S. Southern Baptists have set a goal of 5,000 foreign missionaries by the year 2000.



John and Amy McKelvey



Steve and Ruth Robertson



Kelly and Jamie Zbinden



Robert and Jamie Luper

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, May 2, 1996

Published Since 1877

Mississippi Baptists named to trustee, committee posts

NEW ORLEANS (BP and local reports) — A number of Mississippians were nominated April 26 to serve as trustees of Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) institutions by the 1996 SBC Committee on Nominations.

In addition, SBC President Jim Henry, pastor of First Church, Orlando, appointed several Mississippians to committees charged with managing the 1996 SBC annual meeting June 11-13 in the Superdome in New Orleans.

The trustee nominations must be approved by messengers to the New Orleans meeting.

James R. Futral, pastor of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, was nominated as a member of the SBC Executive Committee in Nashville for a term that will expire in 2000.

Futral replaces L. Russell Bush Jr., pastor of Main Street Church, Hattiesburg, who was ineligible for re-election to the Executive Committee.

Robert M. Williamson Jr., pastor of Park Place Church, Brandon, was nominated for a second four-year term as trustee of the SBC Foreign Mission Board in Richmond.

Frank Harmon, pastor of First Church, Newton, was nominated as a trustee of the SBC Annuity Board in Dallas for a term that will expire in 2000.

Harmon replaces S.A. "Sonny" Adkins, who was ineligible for re-election.

Adkins recently resigned the pastorate of Forest Church, Forest, to become director of evangelism for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Nominated as a trustee of Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., was Thomas M. Atwood, pastor of First Church, Oxford. His term will expire in 2001.

Atwood replaces John S. Allen, who resigned in 1995 as pastor of First Church, Richton, to accept the call to pastor a Memphis church.

J.D. Cutrer of Baldwin, retired businessman and member of First Church, Baldwin, was nominated for a second term as Southern Seminary trustee.

William A. Hanberry of Hat-

First Church, Hazlehurst, was nominated as a trustee for the SBC Historical Commission for a term that will expire in 2000.

Hanvey replaces Roy T. Myers, pastor of Meadville Church, Meadville, who was ineligible for re-election.

O. Kendall Moore of Jackson, attorney and member of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, was nominated for a four-year term as trustee for the SBC Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth.

Moore replaces D.J. Benson, pastor of Salem Heights Church, Laurel. Benson was ineligible for re-election.

Henry announced April 26 that he has made the following Mississippi appointments to committees involved in managing the New Orleans meeting:

- Committee on Committees: Barry Corbett, pastor of First Church, Kosciusko; and Paul Koonce, minister of music, Temple Church, Hattiesburg.

- Resolutions Committee: Linda Donnell of Hattiesburg, businesswoman and member of First Church, Hattiesburg.

- Credentials Committee: Clark Stewart, pastor of Harmony Church, Crystal Springs; and Richard Powell, pastor of Colonial Heights Church, Jackson.

- Tellers Committee: B.J. Jenkins of Brandon, music evangelist and member of Park Place Church, Brandon.

Several trustee vacancies not announced on April 26 will be filled when the Committee on Nominations meets in June prior to the New Orleans meeting.

Some trustee nominations and terms of service may be affected if messengers in New Orleans give final approval to the "Covenant for a New Century" restructuring of SBC institutions.

Southern Baptist Convention

1996 Annual Meeting
New Orleans Superdome
June 11-13, 1996

For messenger information, contact:

Executive Director's Office
Miss. Baptist Convention Board
(601) 968-3800
(800) 748-1651

tiesburg, businessman and member of South 28th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg, was nominated for a second term as trustee for New Orleans Seminary in New Orleans.

Dwight L. Smith, pastor of West Ellisville Church, Ellisville, was nominated for a second term as trustee of Southeastern Seminary in Fort Worth. His term will expire in 2001.

James S. Phillips, pastor of North Greenwood Church, Greenwood, was nominated to a four-year term as trustee of American Baptist Seminary in Nashville.

Phillips replaces Billy W. Murphy, pastor of Hickory Grove Church, Sumrall, who was ineligible for re-election.

Robert M. Hanvey, pastor of

CBF of Miss. holds spring meeting in Yazoo City

"Continuing the Vision" will be the theme for the spring general assembly of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) of Mississippi.

The meeting will be held May 11 at the Annie Ellis Elementary School in Yazoo City, with registration scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m.

Frank Wells, former missionary and pastor who serves as CBF field representative for Mississippi and Alabama, will bring the morning message.

Clark Hensley of Clinton will report on Central Theological Seminary, and Steve and Carla Street of Jackson will give testi-

monies on their journey into joint ministry.

Ruben Swint, president of the CBF Foundation, will present information on the foundation.

Loretta Reynolds and Eddie Broadhead, who served last year as interim minister of Northside Church in Clinton, also will deliver their testimonies on joint ministry.

Jon Doler, pastor of First Church, Leland, will speak on "Continuing the Vision."

For more information, call the CBF office in Jackson at (601) 355-7824 or write to CBF of Mississippi, P.O. Box 3668, Jackson MS 39207.

Scott Association schedules May 5-8 Crusade for Christ

Scott Association will sponsor a county-wide Crusade for Christ at 7 p.m. nightly on May 5-8 at L.O. Atkins Field in Forest. The crusade will kick off with Sunday School night, May 5, when churches are encouraged to attend and sit together as Sunday School classes. Monday, May 6, will be youth night. Missions information and literature will be available to meet youths beginning at 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 7, will be children's night. A free pizza will be served to ages kindergarten through sixth grade. Wednesday, May 8, will be a night to recognize community leaders under the leadership of Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Forest, and minister of music for First Church, Forest. Charles Palmer, organist, and John Palmer, pianist, will perform. A free love offering will be taken beginning at 6 p.m. at Forest Church, 439 E. Main St.



Acteens at Gulfshore

Three hundred Acteens and their leaders met April 12-13 at Gulfshore Assembly for the Mississippi Acteens Convention. Theme for the conference was "Run the Race," (Hebrews 12:1-2). The girls, ages 13-19, donated 1,673 T-shirts (left, above) to the Brantley Center in New Orleans, a joint ministry of

Louisiana Baptists and the Home Mission Board. Linda Smith, missionary/church developer in Hong Kong, delivered a challenge to the girls to run the race in their growth as Christians. Mississippi College's Vision group (left, below) provided music. (Photos by Shelia Stanford)

Correction

On page 9 of the April 25, 1996, issue of **The Baptist Record**, William Carey College senior John Nix should have been listed as the first place winner in the Graduate Level Men group of the National Association of Teachers of Singing awards. It was an editing error.

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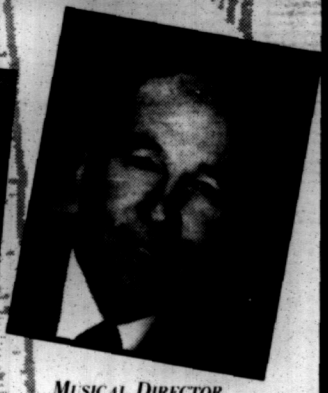
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For convention registration call: **Woman's Missionary Union**

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What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS

Matthew 10:27 NAS

May 2, 1996

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Office of Communication.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST YOUTH NIGHT 1996



CLAY CROSSE

*Challenging Today's
Youth for Christ*



KINDRED HEART

PROGRAM

Featured Speaker -- BARRY ST. CLAIR,
Reach-Out Ministries, Atlanta
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Christian Recording Artist, Nashville
Worship Leaders -- KINDRED HEART,
Horizon Community Church, Jackson

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- Encourage each person to bring a Bible.
- Appropriate dress is requested.
- No alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or illegal drugs will be permitted.
- No radios or taping equipment will be permitted.

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SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

Pray that we may have great faith which will enable us to ask great things of our great Lord and to do great things for Him.

For the "Beyond 2000" conference - Innovations for the 21st Century; Alta Woods BC, Jackson, 9:30 a.m., 3rd-Noon, 4th

For single adults and senior adults who suffer extreme loneliness and depression. Pray that you may help find the void in their lives.

For Ana Mario and Dario, Brazilians in Oklahoma City, who have shown an interest in the Gospel. Mario and Ana run the "More Than Muffins" cafe.

For the "True Love Waits" campaign. In the national meeting at Atlanta on February 11 there were 350,000 signed commitment cards.

For Missionary Chris Ammons and Journeyman John Kuhn who were ambushed by rock throwing men in April as they were returning from a Bible study in a mountain village in Peru.

For Asian churches in New York. Pray for the establishing of churches for this generation of Asian Americans.

For a Chinese speaking bivocational pastor for the group of Chinese students at Southern Mississippi University, BSU Center, Hattiesburg.

For the Chaplains Retreat, Gulfshore Assembly; 5 p.m., 10th-Noon, 11th, sponsored by the Missions Extension and Associational Administration Dept.

For Tom and Gloria Thurman, missionaries in Bangladesh who have received their two-year work visas.

For all mothers as we remember and honor them on Mother's Day.

Preaching/Worship Conference; Calvary BC, Tupelo, 1 p.m., 13th-4 p.m., 14th, sponsored by Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Dept.

For the Quartet Ensemble Festivals; Wildwood BC, Clinton/FBC, Greenwood, 7-8:30 p.m., sponsored by the Church Music Department.

For the Senior Adult Conference; Gulfshore Assembly, 14th-16th, sponsored by Discipleship & Family Ministry Dept.

For all the young people graduating from colleges and universities this month as they seek jobs, etc.



7th Annual Mississippi College

MINISTER'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

*Live Oaks Golf Club
Jackson*

August 5-6, 1996

TOURNAMENT FORMAT:

All ordained ministers are invited, including pastors, DOMs, ministers of education, music, youth and BSU directors

HOUSING:

Dormitory housing is available at \$10 per person
Advance reservation is required

COST:

\$60 PER PERSON

Includes green fees and cart for two days,
Tuesday lunch and refreshments.

Co-Sponsored by the
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

SCHEDULE

Monday, August 5

1:00 p.m. Registration, team and cart assignments at Live Oaks
1:30 p.m. Tee Off — Shot Gun Start
5:00 p.m. Refreshments served

Tuesday, August 6

8:00 a.m. Flight Announcement & cart assignments
8:30 a.m. Tee Off
noon Lunch & Devotional
Prizes and Presentations

.....

ENTRY FORM

Registration deadline is July 30, 1996

Name _____

Partner _____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

Telephone (H) _____ (W) _____

Church _____

Handicap or Average score _____

Request for Dormitory housing: _____ Yes _____ No

Please mail entry with check to:
Minister's Golf Tournament
Mississippi College
Box 4185
Clinton, MS 39058

For more information, call (601) 925-3263



Super Summer '96 with Matt Brinkley

Guidelines for all SS candidates

1. Demonstrates leadership qualities and is a growing Christian.
2. Faithful involvement in Worship, Sunday School, and Wednesday night youth activities.
3. Complete at least one level of a discipleship study (i.e. Survival Kit, DiscipleYouth, DiscipleNow...).
4. Memorized a minimum of 10 scripture verses relating to discipleship, evangelism, or a disciple study.
5. Share their personal testimony with the youth group.
6. Share the Gospel with at least one person this year.
7. Completed at least the 8th grade in 1996, but not yet in college.
8. Agree to attend all SS sessions.

Request For Registration Packet

Registration begins April 15 and ends June 15 - All applications received after June 15 will be subject to a \$25 late fee. Applications received after July 1, may be refused. Space is limited.

For more information, contact the Discipleship & Family Ministry Dept. of the MBCB at 968-3800 in Jackson or 1-800-748-1651.

Matt Brinkley



Michael Passons



July 15-19

William Carey College, Hattiesburg

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE ON PREACHING AND WORSHIP

Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo
May 13-14, 1996

PURPOSE: To provide an in-depth workshop on Bible preaching, focusing on preparation and delivery - practical helps for weekly sermon preparation.

FINANCES: Costs of this conference have been provided through your Cooperative Program gifts.

PERSONNEL:

Brian Harbour, pastor, First Baptist Church, Richardson, Tex.
Stan Fornea, pastor, Morrison Heights Baptist Church, Clinton
Argile Smith, professor of preaching, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Bob Robinson, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Tupelo



Brian Harbour



Stan Fornea



Argile Smith



Bob Robinson

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You've been planning a training session for your church workers for weeks; you have great ideas that need to be shared but only three people have told you they're coming. What can you do to get people to come to these much needed training sessions? When bribery no longer works, what will? The answer to your questions can be found by attending the **How to Get People to Attend Training/Planning** class at

Growing Churches for Tomorrow

July 18-20 July 25-27
August 1-3

The convenience of all the training your church workers need can be found this summer at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly. You don't want to miss out on this great opportunity!

Training for All...

- Sunday School Workers •Discipleship Training Workers
- Deacons •Pastors •Pastors' Wives •RA Leaders
- Ministers of Education •WMU Leaders
- Media Library Workers (July 25-27)
- Black Church Leaders (Aug. 1-3)

...during one conference.

MUSIC LEADER: Kevin Hawkins, FBC, Picayune
PREACHERS: Gene Mims, BSSB, Conference 1
Ricky Blythe, FBC, Flora, Conferences 2 & 3

For more information, contact Larry Salter at 1-800-748-1651.

Men's Ministries

LEGACY BUILDERS RETREAT

Baptist Men in Mississippi have a heartbeat for missions. Each year thousands of men demonstrate this commitment through World Changers projects, volunteer mission projects that touch 42 state conventions and 27 foreign mission settings and Partnership Mission projects.

This increasing commitment to missions has fostered a new spiritual fervor among men. Churches are discovering Legacy Builders Retreats as a resource for developing the spiritual nature of men. As a result of this experience, men are determining to be Godly men in their homes, churches, communities, and workplace. Small groups of men are meeting in many churches reading books about the family and how they are to be spiritual leaders. Prayer and accountability groups are being formed to help men to be accountable for the commitments they are making.

If a church is interested in developing Legacy Builders, the Brotherhood Department has a number of men who are trained in leading Legacy Builders Retreats. Sidney Ellis is the coordinator for Legacy Builders Retreats. Please call him at 1-800-748-1651 for additional information or to schedule a retreat.

WHAT'S NEW IN MEN'S MINISTRIES

Target group: Pastors, Directors of Missions, Ministers of Education, Brotherhood Directors, Men's Ministry Leader

Prayer booklets:

Pray for Your Wife *Pray for Your Pastor* *Pray for Your Family*
Prayer for Your Husband *Prayer for the President*

Missions Today magazine

Legacy Builders retreats

Mission Blueprints — Easy to use blueprints for pews, tables and chairs.

Leading Men's Ministry

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Involving Southern Baptists in Disaster Relief

Order all these items from the Baptist Book Store or Brotherhood Commission
 1-800-233-1123.

WOMEN ON MISSION OLYMPICS

Attention: Senior Women! 50 & Older

May 30, 1996

Camp Garaywa

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

\$7.50 per person

fee covers lunch, limited insurance, missionary speaker, competitive olympic games, athletic activities, individual and group achievement, and fellowship with other Christian seniors.

Deadline: Monday, May 27, 1996

Please return this form to

WMU - Senior Olympics

P.O. Box 530

Jackson, MS 39205

CHECK THE ACTIVITY YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Jump | <input type="checkbox"/> Softball Throw | <input type="checkbox"/> Long Jump |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yo-yo Contest | <input type="checkbox"/> Horeshoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball Throw |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archery | <input type="checkbox"/> Marathon | <input type="checkbox"/> 50-yard Dash |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swim/Race | <input type="checkbox"/> Style Swim | <input type="checkbox"/> Badminton |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis (Singles) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis (Doubles) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shuffleboard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Darts | <input type="checkbox"/> Ping Pong (Singles) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ping Pong (Doubles) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speed Walk | <input type="checkbox"/> 3-Legged Race | <input type="checkbox"/> Shallow-water Run |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kick The Can | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (daytime) _____

Church _____ Association _____

Church Phone _____

30 Years Celebration with Senior Adults

Senior Adult Retreats

I

May 14-16, 1996

Speaker: Mose Dangerfield, Discipleship & Family Ministry director, Jackson

Choir: Joymakers - First Baptist Church, Clinton

II

May 21-23, 1996

Speaker: J. Clark Hensley, former Sr. Adult consultant, retired, Clinton

Choir: Sweet Spirit Singers (Will present the first Sr. Adult musical in Miss. "Echoes From Country Churches")

III

May 28-31 (4 days)

Speaker: Horace Kerr, former Sr. Adult consultant, retired, Brandon

Choir: Victory Singers, Trinity, Southaven

Crafts - Mattie Ray, Ripley

Genealogy - Glenn Shows, MBCB

(Registration: 1:30 p.m. Tuesday)

Departure: 1:00 p.m. Thursday)

Conferences: • Bible Answers For Sr. Adults • Decision Is Yours • Power Encounter (Prayer)
 • When I Look At Myself In The Mirror • Sr. Adult Leadership
 • Ministry Thru Crafts • Volunteers in Missions

SEAFOOD BANQUET/GIFT

HOUSE TOPS

Revival Dates

First, Flowood: May 3-5; Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; homecoming Sunday, 9:15 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. worship, dinner on the grounds; Allen Stephens, evangelist; Richard and Brenda Sullivan, music; Ricky Gray, pastor.

Midway (Metro): May 5-8;

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Jackson, MS 601-957-8844

Sunday, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. worship services, noon covered dish luncheon; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Michael Gott, evangelist; Tom Larrimore, Midway, music; Bryan Abel, pastor.

Whitesand, Prentiss: May 5-9; Sunday, regular services; other times, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Billy Smith, Madison, evangelist; John Greene, McDonough, Ga., music; Charles Wesley, pastor.

Short Creek, Yazoo City: May 4-7; Sat., singing, 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. worship, James Fancher, Jackson, speaker; Mon. 7 p.m., Norris Ables, speaker; Tues., 7 p.m., Julius Thompson, Jackson, speaker; J.B. Sherman, music; Norris Ables, pastor.

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Thursday, May 2, 1996

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

Just for the Record

The Mississippi College (MC) Concert Choral will present Brahms' "Requiem" on May 2 at 8:15 p.m. at First Church, Clinton. Under the direction of Richard Joiner, they will be joined by 41 members of the Mississippi Orchestra. **The MC Concert Ringers** will be presented in concert on May 7 at 8:15 p.m. in Provine Chapel, under the direction of Carol Joy Sparkman, Music Department instructor.

Meadowview Church, Starkville, exceeded its Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal of \$5,000 by \$930.30 all in one day. On Easter Sunday the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal of \$2,500 was met and exceeded, for a total gift of \$2,612.60.

Lena Church, Lena, celebrated "Miracle Day" on March 24. The church set two goals, 106 in Sunday School attendance and to reach their Home Missions Offering of \$875. There were 112 in Sunday

School, double the average attendance, and \$900 was received for the home mission offering. Four weeks prior to "Miracle Day" the members participated in a Love in Action campaign to contact absent church members, unsaved persons, and the unchurched. Tom Stevens is pastor.

Old Rice Road Church, Madison, held a note burning ceremony on its first anniversary April 14. The church began as a mission of Metro Association in April 1995. In October 1995 the fellowship constituted as a church. Now with

50 members, the church plans to continue to grow and minister in the Madison area. Fred Tarpley is pastor.

Hepzibah Church, Lawrence Association, recently set a \$1,000 goal for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. The final total received was \$1,066. Paul Wilbourn is pastor; Lois Hedgepeth is WMU leader.

Puckett Church, Puckett, will hold a church-wide bake sale on May 4, 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Dale Townsend is youth minister.

Names in the News

Mary McDonald, multi-talented musician from Knoxville, Tenn., will be the featured guest on May 5 at Griffith Memorial Church, Jackson. During the 10:30 a.m. worship service, she will play the piano, give her testimony, and lead the adult choir in four of her choral compositions.

Josephine Roberts, Read Professor of English at Louisiana State University, will be the guest lecturer on May 6 for the Lipsey Lecture at Mississippi College (MC), beginning at 7 p.m. Roberts

will deliver a lecture on early women writers, American and English. For more information call (601) 925-3215.

Lavon and Beatrice Hatten will be honored with a 50th wedding anniversary celebration in the fellowship hall of North Winona Church on May 5 from 2-4 p.m. Hatten formerly pastored churches in Louisiana and Mississippi, and served as director of missions for Carroll, Montgomery, Holmes, Warren, Yazoo, Sharkey, and Issaquena counties.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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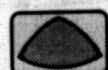
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1996 Season: April 26 - October 26

Tickets: \$12.00 & 13.00 (plus tax).

Nightly except Mondays & Thursdays.

Curtain Time: 8:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. after Labor Day.

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Uniform

Finding true happiness



By David Mitchell
Matthew 5

The story is told by Gordon Sansing Sr. of teaching a group of bivocational pastors about the Sermon on the Mount and the Beatitudes. Each week one of the students in particular would eagerly take down notes, work them into a message, and deliver it to his congregation. At the conclusion of one class, Sansing noted, "Next week we will examine the Beatitudes."

The following Sunday, the student shared with his congregation, "Next Sunday we will study the Beatitudes." As he shook hands with his congregation as they left the church, one member asked him, "Pastor, what do you mean by 'Beatitudes'?"

He stopped, thought a minute, and then said matter-of-factly, "By 'Beatitudes,' I mean what be's your attitude?"

The introduction to the Sermon on the Mount contains nine Beatitudes. The purpose of the Beatitudes is to help those who follow Jesus know how to have real, lasting happiness through displaying godly characteristics or attitudes in their daily lives.

The poor in spirit (v. 3). The following nine sayings have been noted as the Beatitudes from the Latin word for blessings. Blessed refers to those who are happy or fortunate. The poor in spirit does not refer to those who are spiritually sick or have a lower quality of spiritual life. Those who are poor in spirit realize their spiritual bankruptcy apart from Christ as well as their powerlessness apart from Christ. These are the people who understand their own spiritual poverty.

Those who mourn (v. 4). We mourn for many different reasons. We mourn because of death, sickness, and loss. In this case, Jesus most likely refers to those who feel sorrowful because of their own sins and because of personal circumstances. God comforts now in part with the Holy Spirit. In the future, in his presence, he will comfort in full.

The meek (v. 5). A meek person is not the stereotypical nerd wearing pocket-protector, highwater-legged pants, and horned rim glasses. Rather, meek is one who is humble, gentle, and is not aggressive. This is one who depends on God's strength rather than his own. He understands and sees his of her limitations and depends completely upon God.

Hunger and thirst (v. 6). These are persons who will be satisfied. They want more than anything else to see God's standards established and obeyed in their own lives and in the world. They desire to see the world overcome by God's righteousness. Righteousness is desired by these as much as food by a starving person or water by a person who is dying of thirst.

The merciful (v. 7). The merciful person has compassion and provides healing. Having understood and experienced God's grace and forgiveness, they are able to share mercy. Those who give evidence of mercy in their lives are giving evidence of the fruit of the Spirit.

The pure in heart (v. 8). Purity is a commodity that is missing in America today. Pure in heart refers to moral uprightness. Those who heard Jesus speak understood ritual cleansing and ceremonial washing. Great emphasis was placed on outward cleansing, but Jesus focused on an inward purity.

Peacemakers (v. 9). The Prince of Peace said that those who love peace and are actively involved in making peace will find true reconciliation.

Persecuted (vv. 10-12). Those who are persecuted for the sake of matters immaterial to the cause of the kingdom face strife for no reason. The seven characteristics mentioned by Jesus are normally not welcomed by the world. A person who displays those qualities may find a world of hostility. Those who are persecuted for the sake of the kingdom are blessed, Jesus said.

Reward in these verses speaks of a future recompense for enduring present conditions. In reading the Beatitudes, we find that Jesus desires that our attitudes and state of mind be contradictory to those promoted by the world. Jesus made clear that those who profess to be disciples will give strong evidence of changed lives. Taking a personal inventory which reveals areas of strength and weakness related to the above characteristics would be time well spent.

Mitchell is pastor of Van Winkle Church, Jackson.

Bible Book

God's will, my priority



By Clayton Littlejohn
Haggai 1, 2

Sixteen years after Cyrus, king of Persia, had signed a decree for the Jewish captives in Babylon to be set free, return to Jerusalem, and rebuild their temple, they had failed to do so. They had returned to Jerusalem, but instead of rebuilding the temple, they had rebuilt themselves luxurious homes and were planting crops. Along came Haggai with four messages from the Lord, the first of which was to get their priorities in order and rebuild the temple. This is a message for us today to check our priorities. Is our house of God in shambles? Are we living in luxury while our church building is being neglected? Are we working our fields when we should be bringing in his harvest? Where are our priorities today?

A question about priorities (1:1-6). In 522 B.C. Darius I became king and continued the peace with the Jewish people. He was the Persian king in office when Haggai brought his four messages to Zerubbabel, Judah's governor; to Joshua, the Jewish high priest; and to the people. The first of the four messages began in August 520 B.C.

Not much is known about Haggai, whose name means "festival," except that he was God's prophet who spoke under divine leadership (1:13). His message from the "Lord of hosts" (v. 2) was a reference to God's power over angelic beings and also human armies. Haggai referred to the remnant of Jewish people as "this people," not God's people. Why? Because they were not acting like his people.

God's people needed a place to come together and worship, and receive instructions from him. These people said, "The time is not come, the time that the Lord's house be built." They had put God's priority on the back burner with the thoughts of one day building his house, but not now.

Haggai now sarcastically asked them why they had time to build their nice "ceiled houses" (v. 4), and yet God's house remained in rubble? In verse 5, God warned them to "consider their ways." Why? Because they were not receiving the fruit from all their labor. In verse 6 their crops were not producing, their thirst was not being quenched, their garments were not keeping them warm, and their money was disappearing. One cannot expect the blessings of God when he is unwilling to be obedient to God in getting priorities in order.

A promise of glory (2:6-9). In this message Haggai encouraged the people to continue the work of rebuilding God's house even though it didn't seem as glorious as the one Solomon built. Many of the people were still alive who had seen the glory of the first temple (v. 3), and they were discouraged because this one wasn't as grand. God said he would fill this temple with his glory and it would be greater than the first (v. 9). God made note that the first temple was a glorious sight to see and he could provide another such temple since all "the silver is mine, and the gold is mine" (v. 8), but this temple would be one where glory was found, and peace was given (v. 4). This was probably referring to the day when Jesus would rule his kingdom here on earth as the "Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6).

A promise of blessing (2:18-19). In these verses Haggai exhorted the people to think back, "consider," in other words, ask themselves why there was no seed in their barns; why the fig and pomegranate trees didn't bear fruit? The reason was because their priorities were in the wrong place. God couldn't be last on their list of priorities. He should have been first. When he was given first place, he said, "from this day will I bless you" (v. 19). History records that God did bless them.

God's response to his people's rebuilding the house of the Lord reveals that God blesses his people when their first priority is doing his will. We face the same attitude today that Haggai did in his day. People are procrastinators when it comes to God's will for their lives. We must sound the alarm in our churches that God's priority is our priority!

Littlejohn is pastor of Ingram Church, Baldwyn.

Life and Work

Your future is secure



By Linda Donnell
1 Thessalonians 4, 5

"Your future is secure!" What a welcome statement in our topsy-turvy world where everything is not only changing, but doing so at a very rapid rate. Historians say that there have been few times in all history where man has been subject to so much fear and uncertainty — primarily caused by these accelerated changes. In today's society, which Billy Graham refers to as an "age of anxiety," where nothing seems secure, Paul's words to the Thessalonians may offer some welcome comfort and encouragement to searching souls.

A secure investment (4:13-18). All through the ages, questions regarding the "hereafter" have been of supreme interest to the human heart and mind. The Thessalonian Christians were no different. But they were specifically concerned and confused about the fate of those who died prior to the return of the Lord. Certainly there was no doubt that they believed the Lord would return and probably thought they would live to see the event. But as friends and family members died, their hearts were torn, not only by bereavement but also with the fear that those who died might miss the blessedness of the Lord's return.

Paul sought to assure his readers that their investment in Christ was a secure one and that all investors would reap the dividends. At the Lord's return, the dead will rise first, then those who remain will be caught up together with them to meet the Lord. "So we will be with the Lord forever" (v. 17).

A guaranteed return (5:1-2). Having spoken of the second coming of Christ in the preceding chapter, Paul now proceeds to tell the Thessalonians of the uselessness of inquiring about the particular time of Christ's return: "about times and dates we do not need to write to you" (v. 1). We can be assured that there is an appointed time for Christ's return, but the exact day and time we do not need to know. Jesus said that no man knew; not even he knew (Mark 13:32). Why should we need knowledge of something that God's own Son did not have? How often do we question the work of the Lord when there are things unnecessary for us to know?

We may not know when our Lord will return, but we can know that it will be sudden — "as a thief in the night" (v. 2). Because of this, we must not delay preparation. An old man who was offered comforting words at his death bed replied, "Don't worry. I thatched my roof when the weather was warm." In like manner, we should always be prepared. We must live in a constant attitude of watching and waiting, while we are busy working and witnessing.

An active account (5:5-8). How do we prepare for his guaranteed return? Paul suggested that we should be actively alert as we watch (v. 6) and that we should arm ourselves with the three great Christian graces: faith, love, and hope (v. 8). Faith will help keep us spiritually and morally serious-minded about life. A heart inflamed with a fervent love for God will certainly keep us mindful of his return; while the hope of eternal life will help prevent us from becoming overly intoxicated with the pleasures of sin. The key to our success against evil forces which surround us is the intensity of these graces in our life.

Paul also reminded us that our salvation is not grounded on merit but on God's appointment and Christ's death on the cross; and the relationship between Christ and his people is never terminated — not even in death. This should be a great source of hope, as well as encouragement, to be actively watchful for his return.

A mutual fund (5:11). Paul told the Thessalonian Christians to "encourage one another and build each other up" as they had been doing. These are great words for today's Christians. We are all one in Christ. The Christian walk should be a mutual fund of praying for one another and encouraging each other.

As Christians in a topsy-turvy world, we can know that our future is secure. The Lord will return. With this knowledge, let us commit anew to sharing with those around us who are grasping at straws of security. Also, let us commit to finding concrete ways of encouraging and helping to build up the faith of fellow Christians.

Donnell is a member of First Church, Hattiesburg.

THE VILLAGE VIEW

The Baptist Children's Village



Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director
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(601) 922-2242

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Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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JAN. 31, 1996
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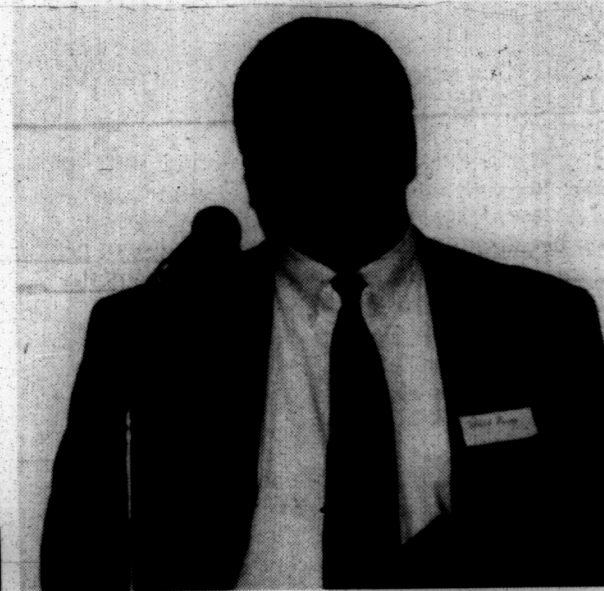
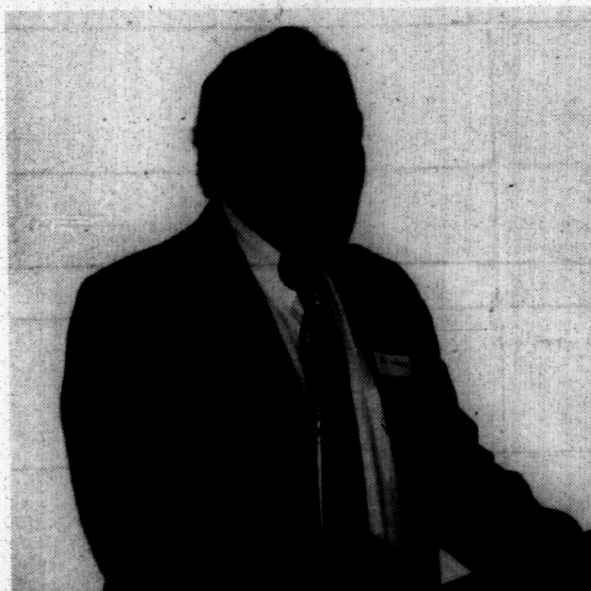
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Mrs. Ben Scruggs
Mrs. Bob Aldridge
Miss Robin Aldridge

(to be continued)



Resident alumnus David Rainey (above, right) and staff alumnus Don Williams (left) related their testimonies to a group at the Grenada Area Conference in March. Emmanuel Baptist Church, Grenada, hosted the meeting for The Baptist Children's Village. Following dinner and statements from alumni, guests enjoyed informal dialogue with BCV Executive Director Ronnie Robinson.



Beautiful fresh sunlight, cold temperatures, and warm hearts greeted Easter morning dawn at The Baptist Children's Village Easter Sunrise Service. The words and melody of "Was It a Morning Like This?" echoed across the hillside as Alisa Brashear (above, left), BCV Emer-



gency Care Social Worker, drew everyone's imagination back to that glorious morning when Christ arose. Dr. John G. McCall (right), Director of Church Relations & Professor of Christian Studies at Mississippi College, followed with an inspiring Easter message.

capsules

CHRISTIAN COALITION OFFERS REWARD IN ARSON CASES: WASHINGTON (ABP) — The Christian Coalition is offering a \$25,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for a rash of arsons targeted at black churches in the South. **USA Today** reported there have been 23 arsons at black churches in eight states since January 1995. Ralph Reed, executive director of the conservative, mostly white Christian Coalition, said the fires were an "attack upon the entire faith community" and that white evangelicals "will not look the other way," as many churches did during the civil rights movement. Associated Press reported. A government official welcomed the offer. "People have to be clear, this is, wrong, this is terrorism," said Deval Patrick, assistant attorney general for civil rights. The Christian Coalition also demanded that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms be taken off the investigation, charging that some investigators have been linked to racist activities at off-duty gatherings. "We want people on the job who are prepared to bring a speedy end to this matter," Earl Jackson, director of urban development for the Christian Coalition, said at a news conference. Others who have called for stepped-up investigations into the arsons include the more-liberal National Council of Churches. Rewards offered by the ATF and others total at least \$100,000, according to **USA Today**. Wade Henderson, director of the NAACP's Washington office, said he was troubled by the Christian Coalition's "apparent effort to politicize the inquiry." "We are not defenders of the ATF, but we are concerned that the call to remove them entirely from the case is misplaced," Henderson told Associated Press.

S.C. NAMES NATIONAL CONSULTANT FOR TRANSFORMATION: COLUMBIA, S.C. (BP) — Citing an emerging obligation to share what they are learning about church and denominational growth, the South Carolina Convention's executive board elected George W. Bullard Jr. as national consultant for denominational transformation during its semiannual meeting April 15-16. The position is unique among Baptist state conventions because it crosses both state and denominational lines. Bullard, currently director of the convention's strategic development and associational growth team, will assist churches and denominations across the nation with strategies for increasing membership, developing disciples, and expanding ministries. The new assignment, beginning May 1, is for three years.

MAY 24-25 PRAYER, FASTING FOR TIBET SCHEDULED: RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Southern Baptists have set aside a 24-hour period beginning at 6 p.m. May 24 to pray for the people of Tibet, the region of Asia famous for its rugged Himalaya Mountains and home to the highest peaks in the world. Each spring, Southern Baptists and other Great Commission Christians devote one day to prayer for a specific group of people who have little or no access to hearing the good news of Jesus Christ. The 1996 Day of Prayer and Fasting for World Evangelization focuses on the nearly 5 million Tibetans worldwide. A resource kit to support the prayer emphasis is available free of charge from the Foreign Mission Board. The kit includes a video about Tibetans, news coverage on Tibet adapted from **The Commission** magazine and a prayer guide. To order, call 1-800-866-3621 or write Customer Services, Foreign Mission Board, P.O. Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230-0767. Please allow two weeks for delivery.

COMMITTEE SEEKING CBF HEAD FAILS TO MEET DEADLINE: ATLANTA (ABP) — After seven months, a committee seeking a new coordinator for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is still looking, the committee's chair reported April 19. The Fellowship's current coordinator, Cecil Sherman, retires this summer. Search committee chairwoman Carolyn Weatherford Crumpler told the Fellowship's Coordinating Council in January that the group planned to bring a nominee at an April 17-19 meeting in Atlanta. She was so confident the search would be completed by now, she said, she planned an overseas trip immediately after the April meeting. After setbacks in the search, she canceled the trip, she added. "We're still looking for a coordinator," Crumpler told the 84-member council. In January Crumpler told the council that the 12-member search committee had not offered the nomination to anyone, contradicting widespread rumors that Houston pastor Daniel Vestal had turned the committee down.

SAMFORD ALUMNUS' \$10 MILLION TO ENDOW PHARMACY SCHOOL: BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — Samford University alumnus and hospital executive R. Clayton McWhorter of Nashville has donated more than \$10 million to endow the university's pharmacy school, the largest single contribution from a living individual in Samford history. The Birmingham, Ala., university will honor McWhorter by naming the school in his honor, the McWhorter School of Pharmacy. In addition to recognizing McWhorter, the new pharmacy school honors his brother Fred, a Chattanooga, Tenn., pharmacist and 1951 Samford grad, and other family members. McWhorter is chairman of the board of Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corporation, the largest investor-owned hospital company in the United States, with more than 100 hospitals and headquarters in Nashville. Now 62, the 1955 Samford graduate has announced he will step down as chairman May 9, although he will remain a member of the board of directors.

Colorado churches submit requests for partnership help

Under the auspices of the Mississippi/Colorado Partnership project, the following requests have been submitted by churches in the state of Colorado:

— First Southern Baptist Church, Cortez. Small team to lay carpet in auditorium and classrooms. Needs funds for carpet. Any period time July-September 1996.

— Stratton Church, Stratton, needs associate pastor for two years. Must be able to do music; computer knowledgeable; and a "people person." Meals and housing provided.

— Denver Baptist Center, Denver, needs director. Must make a one-year commitment and have social ministry skills, along with ability to supervise and organize

work.

— Four summer interns to lead 10 weeks of summer urban mission retreats in downtown Denver. June 1-August 15, 1996. Housing provided.

— Mount Crest Church, Leadville, has several needs:

— 15-passenger van.
— Group to do trim work, carpentry, and painting. Housing and meals provided. Needed for one week as soon as possible.

— Expand and remodel church kitchen. Must have all skills necessary and funds to purchase materials. Housing and meals provided. Needed for one week (or more), as soon as possible.

— Small team to lay carpet in basement of church building. Housing and meals provided, but they do not have funds for materials. Needed for one week as soon as possible.

Inquiries about these or any other partnership related projects should be directed to the Partnership Missions Office, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 968-3800

Aultman, pastor's wife, dies at 84

LaVerne Wicker Aultman, 84, wife of Howard H. Aultman, pastor emeritus of First Church, Columbia, died April 19 at Methodist Hospital in Columbia after an illness of 35 years.

She was born in Smith County, graduated from Hattiesburg High School, and attended Mississippi Normal College. She was an accomplished pianist and organist.

The Aultmans served the following churches: Dauphin Way Church, Mobile, Ala.; and in Mississippi, First Church, Holly Springs; Harrisburg Church, Tupelo; and First Church, Columbia.

She is survived by her husband; daughter, Eva Aultman Hart of Jackson; son, Howard Gerald "Jerry" Aultman of Fort Worth; a sister; a brother; and three grandchildren.



LifeAnswers
Ron Mumbower, Ph.D.
Minister of Counseling
First Church, Jackson

I'm terrified of being baptized in front of hundreds of people at my church. Does that mean I can't be a Christian?

Baptism is the visible expression of what you did when you asked Jesus into your heart. We are encouraged to follow Jesus in baptism and "... go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt. 28:19, NIV). Don't concentrate on the hundreds who will be watching; imagine the angels rejoicing in heaven and realize that most of the people in front of you have already done what you are about to do. Romans 10:9 (NIV) states, "That if you confess with your mouth 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Baptism is the method of attaining church membership for Baptists, but your salvation was sealed when you made the decision to repent and follow Romans 10:9. Gather your friends and ask them to pray for you and be with you at the time of your baptism. Possibly one of your friends could enter the water with you as an encourager. Talk

with your pastor about your fear. Don't be robbed of the blessing that comes with baptism's spiritual cleansing.

Organized church has never appealed to me. How can I lead my children to a relationship with Jesus without attending some big church?

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 provides an ideal set of Old Testament instructions on how parents can lead children to a relationship with Jesus. Parents lead by example, so when our children see Christ in us, they are drawn to him. Church attendance enables children to be with peers who have Christian beliefs and values. Church is also valuable because adults can teach children about faith and answer questions that children would otherwise not have the opportunity to ask. As an adult and a parent, it is important that you have fellowship with other believers so you can be encouraged in your daily walk. Nobody said church has to be "big" to be effective — it simply needs to be a place that honors Jesus where people come together for spiritual refreshment and renewal.

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name is not required. Remember: in time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.

Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx
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YKS UHWYE UHBOX HW ZCT XKCUU IS KAZIUSF,
CTF YKS KCABKYDTSXX HW ZST XKCUU IS IHQSF
FHQT, CTF YKS UHVF CUHTS XKCUU IS SRCUYSF
DT YKCY FCE.

DXCDCK YQH: SUSLST

This week's clue: E equals Y.

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Proverbs Twenty-Two: Two.

Baptist Record

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